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Dkt No. 96700/596  
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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Dkt No. 96700/596

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Jan Geliebter, George J. Christ, Arnold Melman, and Jamil Rehman  
Serial No. : 09/531,969  
Filed : March 21, 2000  
For : GENE THERAPY FOR REGULATING SMOOTH MUSCLE TONE  
Examiner : Peter Paras, Jr.  
Group Art Unit : 1632

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 29, 2002 in the above-identified case. A response to the July 29, 2002 Final Office Action is due October 29, 2002. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

"Express Mail" mailing label No. EV 031301717.US  
Date of Deposit: October 29, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.  
Name: Alan D. Miller

Signature:

Amendments

Please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows: